

In the claims

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for audibly announcing at a device caller identification information transmitted over a network, the information being transmitted in the form of a modulated signal to the device wherein the modulated signal is representative of the information, the apparatus comprising:

 a receiver for capturing a ring signal and a modulated signal representative of the caller identification information transmitted over a network, the modulated signal comprising a stream of characters representative of the caller identification information;

 a converter in communication with the receiver for converting the modulated signal into a stream of audible signals, wherein the converter processes the stream of characters in real-time as the characters are received from the network;

a display to visually display the stream of characters in real time and concurrently with the audible signals being enunciated;

one or more matching networks to reroute and forward the audible signals from the apparatus to a speaker in an alternative communication device; and

 a speaker in communication with the converter for producing audible sounds corresponding to the stream of audible signals representative of the information received over the network.

2. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the information is transmitted and received during an interval between ringing signals transmitted over the network.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a memory circuit in communication with the receiver for storing the information.

4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a demodulator for demodulating the modulated signal received from the network and generating therefrom a stream of characters representative of the information.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a processor for converting

the modulated signal into a stream of characters representative of the information.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 5, further comprising a memory circuit in communication with the processor, wherein the processor stores the character stream in the memory circuit.

7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the modulated signal includes information identifying an originating telephone subscriber line, the information including at least one of message type, message length, parameter type, parameter length, originating telephone number according to a directory listing, name associated with the originating telephone number according to the directory listing and a checksum.

8. (Currently Amended) A device comprising:

an apparatus for audibly annunciating, at the device, caller identification information transmitted over a network, ~~the information being transmitted~~ in the form of a modulated signal to the device wherein the modulated signal is representative of the information, wherein the apparatus comprises:

 a receiver for receiving a modulated signal representative of the caller identification information transmitted over a network, the modulated signal comprising a stream of characters representative of the caller identification information;

 a converter in communication with the receiver for converting the modulated signal into a stream of audible signals, wherein the converter processes the stream of characters in real-time as the characters are received from the network; and

 a speaker in communication with the converter for producing audible sounds corresponding to the stream of audible signals representative of the information received over the network; and

one or more matching networks to reroute and forward the audible signals from the apparatus to a speaker in an alternative communication device.

9. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 8, wherein the information is transmitted and received during an interval between ringing signals transmitted over the network.

10. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 8, wherein the apparatus further comprises a memory circuit in communication with the receiver for storing the information.

11. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 8, wherein the apparatus further comprises a demodulator for demodulating the modulated signal received over the network and generating therefrom a stream of characters representative of the information.

12. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 8, wherein the apparatus further comprises a processor for converting the modulated signal into a stream of characters representative of the information.

13. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 12, wherein the apparatus further comprises a memory circuit in communication with the processor, wherein the processor stores the character stream in the memory circuit.

14. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 8, wherein the modulated signal includes information identifying an originating subscriber, the information including at least one being selected from the group consisting of message type, message length, parameter type, parameter length, originating telephone number according to a directory listing, name associated with the originating telephone number according to the directory listing and a checksum.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for audibly annunciating, at a device, caller identification information transmitted over a network, the information being transmitted in the form of a modulated signal to the device wherein the modulated signal is

representative of the information, the method comprising:

receiving a modulated signal representative of the caller identification information transmitted over a network, the modulated signal comprising a stream of characters representative of the caller identification information;

converting the modulated signal into a stream of audible signals;

processing the stream of characters in real-time as the characters are received from the network; and

providing the stream of audible signals to a speaker in communication with the converter for producing audible sounds corresponding to the stream of audible signals representative of the information received over the network; and

displaying the stream of characters representative of the caller identification in real time and simultaneously with the production of the stream of audible signals.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein receiving the modulated signal further comprises receiving the information is transmitted and received during an interval between ringing signals transmitted over the network.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising storing the information in a memory circuit in communication with the receiver.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising demodulating the modulated signal received over the network and generating therefrom a stream of characters representative of the information.

19. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising converting the modulated signal into a stream of characters representative of the information.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising storing the characters in a memory circuit in communication with a processor.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein receiving the modulated

signal further comprises capturing information contained within the modulated signal identifying an originating subscriber line, the information including at least one being selected from the group consisting of message type, message length, parameter type, parameter length, originating telephone number according to a directory listing, name associated with the originating telephone number according to the directory listing and a checksum.

22. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for audibly annunciating at a device caller identification information transmitted over a network, the information being transmitted in the form of a modulated signal to the device wherein the modulated signal is representative of the information, the apparatus comprising:

means for capturing a ring signal and a modulated signal representative of the caller identification information transmitted over a network, the modulated signal comprising a stream of characters representative of the caller identification information;

means for converting the modulated signal into a stream of audible signals in communication with the receiver, wherein the means for converting processes the stream of characters in real-time as the characters are received from the network; **and**

means for producing audible sounds corresponding to the stream of audible signals representative of the information received over the network in communication with the converter;

means for displaying the stream of characters representative of the caller identification in real time and simultaneously with the production of the stream of audible signals; and

means for rerouting and forwarding the audible signals to a speaker in an alternative communication device using one or more matching networks.

23. (Currently Amended) A device comprising:

means for audibly annunciating at the device caller identification information transmitted over a ~~telephone~~ network, the information being transmitted in the form of a modulated signal to the device wherein the modulated signal is representative of the information, wherein the means for audibly annunciating comprises:

means for receiving a modulated signal representative of the caller identification information transmitted over a network, the modulated signal comprising a stream of characters representative of the caller identification information;

means for converting the modulated signal into a stream of audible signals in communication with the means for receiving, wherein the means for converting processes the stream of characters in real-time as the characters are received from the network; and

means for producing audible sounds corresponding to the stream of audible signals representative of the information received over the network in communication with the means for converting;

means for displaying the stream of characters representative of the caller identification in real time and simultaneously with the production of the stream of audible signals; and

means for one or more matching networks to reroute and forward the audible signals from the apparatus to a speaker in an alternative communication device..

24. (Currently Amended) A system for audibly annunciating at a device caller identification information transmitted over a network, the information being transmitted in the form of a modulated signal to the device wherein the modulated signal is representative of the information, the system comprising:

means for capturing at a receiver a ring signal from a network;

means for receiving a modulated signal representative of the caller identification information transmitted over a network, the modulated signal comprising a stream of characters representative of the caller identification information;

means for converting the modulated signal into a stream of audible signals, wherein the means for converting processes the stream of characters in real-time as the characters are received from the network; and

means for providing the stream of audible signals to a speaker in communication with the converter for producing audible sounds corresponding to the stream of audible signals representative of the information received over the network;

means for displaying the stream of characters representative of the caller

identification in real time and simultaneously with the production of the stream of audible signals; and

means for one or more matching networks to reroute and forward the audible signals from the apparatus to a speaker in an alternative communication device.

25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the caller identification information is transmitted over a network during an interval between the ring signal and a subsequent ring signal, the receiver providing the subsequent ring signal to a telephone ringer after receiving the modulated signal.

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(Cancelled)

32. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 8, wherein the caller identification information is transmitted over a network during an interval between ringing signals, the receiver providing the subsequent ring signal to a telephone ringer after receiving the modulated signal.

33-38. (Cancelled)

39. (Currently Amended) A method for audibly announcing at a device caller identification information transmitted over a network, the information being transmitted in the form of a modulated signal to the device wherein the modulated signal is representative of the information, the method comprising:

capturing at a receiver a ring signal from a network;
receiving a modulated signal representative of caller identification information transmitted over a network, the modulated signal comprising a stream of characters representative of the caller identification information;
converting the modulated signal into a stream of audible signals;
processing the stream of characters in real-time as the characters are received from the network;

providing the stream of audible signals to a speaker in communication with the converter for producing audible sounds corresponding to the stream of audible signals representative of the information received over the network; and

providing the subsequent ring signal to a ringer after receiving the modulated signal;

displaying the stream of characters representative of the caller identification in real time and simultaneously with the production of the stream of audible signals; and
rerouting the audible signals from the apparatus using one or more matching networks and forwarding the audible signals to a speaker in an alternative communication device.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein the information is transmitted and received during an interval between ringing signals transmitted over the network.

41. (Original) The method of claim 39, further comprising storing the information in a memory circuit in communication with the receiver.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, further comprising demodulating the modulated signal received over the network and generating therefrom a stream of characters representative of the information.

43. (Original) The method of claim 39, further comprising converting the modulated signal into a stream of characters representative of the information.

44. (Original) The method of claim 43, further comprising storing the characters in a memory circuit in communication with a processor.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, wherein receiving the modulated signal further comprises capturing information contained within the modulated signal identifying an originating subscriber, the information including at least one of message

type, message length, parameter type, parameter length, originating telephone number according to a directory listing, name associated with the originating telephone number according to the directory listing and a checksum.